

## **Annual Update**

## Ziro **Burking Faso**

Positive changes are happening in Ziro. Learn more about how we're supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equalitydriven work.

In Ziro, harmful traditional practices and high poverty make children more vulnerable to violence and restrict economic opportunities for young people and women, leading to significant migration. Additionally, inadequate educational facilities negatively impact early childhood development.

In partnership with the community and government, Plan aims to enhance employment and educational opportunities in Ziro. Our market gardening initiatives have provided gardeners with 36 watering cans, 36 hoes, and four rolls of wire netting. Additionally, 257 children were trained in soybean and poultry farming, creating new entrepreneurial prospects.



Children participating in Plan's initiatives.

"As part of Plan's initiatives, I chose to train as a women's hairdresser. Now I am getting skills to start my own business." Kaligueta,16-year-old, Sponsored Child.



## **Impact in Numbers**

young people trained in soilless cultivation

women trained in liquid soap production

257

girls and boys trained in soya cultivation

## **Rediscovering the Joy of School**



Solange

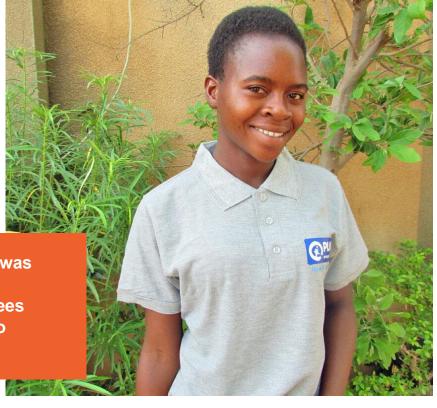
AGE:

17 years old

**DREAMS TO BE:** 

Physical and Sports
Education Teacher

"With the support of Plan, I was able to be accepted as a scholarship holder, all my fees were paid and I went back to school after losing a year."



#### **Meet Solange**

Solange is currently in the fourth grade of secondary school and loves playing sports and singing. After her father passed away in 2013, her mother remarried and moved to another village, so Solange chose to stay with her father's family under the care of her uncle.

Solange dreams of becoming a physical education and sports teacher and puts all her effort into studying so she does not fall behind or risk being expelled.

#### **Economic Obstacles**

Thanks to her uncle's support, Solange progressed to the third grade of secondary school. However, while preparing for her 10th-grade exams, she learned that her uncle could no longer support her financially due to economic hardships.

This news was a crushing blow to Solange, who was deeply committed to her education. She feared for her future, knowing that without a proper education, her options would be severely limited. In this situation she would be forced to abandon her dream of becoming a teacher.

#### **Learning For The Future**

To improve access to education, entrepreneurship, and vocational training for sponsored children, particularly girls, Plan International has provided scholarships to Solange and other vulnerable children to help cover their school fees.

The scholarship has helped Solange rediscover the joy of attending school, and she is now more determined than ever to achieve her dream of becoming a physical education teacher.



Solange, 17-year-old, writing on a board in her school.

## **Projects That Support Lasting Change**

#### **Economic Innovation**

In Ziro, high poverty and limited economic opportunities, has led to poor career aspects for young people and women. Through our projects, Plan aims to collaborate with the community to support the development of employment services to promote peaceful co-existence and the resilience of communities from different social categories and ethnic groups.

Through our initiatives, 36 producers, including 32 women, were trained in market gardening production techniques. The project targets young people and women, with the aim of improving their financial capacity and autonomy and enabling them to carry out income-generating activities.

Additionally, the market garden production capacities of the 36 gardeners have been strengthened through the provision of fertilisers, seeds and gardening tools.



A beneficiary watering onion plants in the garden.

20

# Children were trained in entrepreneurship activities



Participants being trained in soybean production.



Rahimatou, 14-year-old, from Ziro.

#### **Inclusive Education**

Harmful traditional practices, high poverty rates, and educational facilities with limited materials have led to more children being out of school in Ziro. Through our initiatives, Plan aims to improve access to quality education and vocational training for the most vulnerable sponsored children and young people.

Some of our initiatives include supporting 470 sponsored children with school fees to help them complete their educational goals. 12 pre-schools for 825 children were developed, equipped with play and teaching materials, food and cooking utensils.

This project has helped to keep children in school while also strengthening the economic autonomy of young people trained in animal farming.

"Through Plan's trainings on semi-modern poultry-farming, I am going to become a great poultry farmer, so I can provide for my needs and help my mother in her small business." Rahimatou, 14-year-old, from

## You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Children holding the playing material donated by Plan International.

#### Together, we're working to create a more just world.

High poverty, non-functional pre-school structures, and limited local authority involvement have restricted educational opportunities for children. Next year, Plan will collaborate with schools and local governments to enhance educational facilities in Ziro and promote inclusive education at all levels.

In Ziro, severe poverty limits career prospects for women and youth. Next year, Plan will support vocational training to promote their economic independence.

High rates of child marriages and early pregnancies in Ziro severely impact young girls and women. Next year, we will enhance young people's knowledge and skills in sexual and reproductive health.

### **Message from Plan Staff**

"Thanks to sponsorship, our village has benefited from boreholes at the school and in the neighbourhoods, the construction and equipping of a community pre-school, and support for market garden production. As a volunteer, I've received training that improves my approach with children."



Habibou, Community Volunteer, from Ziro.

#### The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

### **Progress in Numbers**

girls trained in gender stereotypes

teachers trained in emergency education

teachers trained in early childhood care

children trained in gender-based violence